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Foxwood, 10 July 2011

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Clerk's Office
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

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PSC SC
CLERK'S OFFICE

Direct Testimony: Docket #2011-515-W

Dear Public Service Commission,

Many circumstances and difficulties for many, many years have made it increasingly necessary for the residents of the Foxwood community to oppose the practices of USSC. A change in water source is only symptomatic of the many issues we have already had with USSC centering around cost and service issues.

It is unfortunate, and telling, that any consumer should have to oppose a public utility seeking to provide a better source of water. However, I beg the Commission to consider why those who would benefit from such a connection should be so opposed, and to be consequently careful in their judgments.

I oppose the hookup to York County water for two reasons. First, due to USSC's ongoing poor response to the issue of water quality for two years after I moved into the neighborhood in April 2004, I (as well as many others) invested significant funds in a whole-house treatment system. Since that time, I have been spending approximately \$6.70 per month

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maintaining that water treatment system with salt and activated charcoal. Hookup to York County water will not only negate the initial investment of approximately \$4,000 but will also not save me continuing to maintain the system. I beg the Commission to have mercy on the many residents of Foxwood who will have to pay the additional fees passed on by USSC, as well as the maintenance of their own personally-financed equipment – to say nothing of years of amortized fees in the future for hookup expenses.

Second, I oppose the hookup because USSC proposes it. To assume that a different source of water will change the general character of the provider is ludicrous. USSC's claims of being interested in quality of service for Foxwood is belied by history. Not one resident of Foxwood would argue against this. In its service to the residents of Foxwood and the State of South Carolina, the Commission should not allow USSC to continue as they have, while forcing Residents to pay for the Utility's ongoing negligence.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Knowlton".

Jim Knowlton
306 Brookside Dr.
Fort Mill, SC 29715